

R 311816Z AUG 05 ZUI ASN-A00243000005
FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC
TO ALCOAST
BT

UNCLAS //N03006//

ALCOAST 434/05

COMDTNOTE 3006

SUBJ: HURRICANE KATRINA RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

1. COAST GUARD RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA HAS BEEN
OUTSTANDING.

I AM PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED WITH COAST GUARD ATLANTIC AREA AND
DISTRICT EIGHT EFFORTS DESPITE THE ENORMOUS COMMUNICATIONS AND
LOGISTICAL CHALLENGES. OUR SAR EFFORTS CONTINUE AND THE AMERICAN
PUBLIC IS IMPRESSED AND GRATEFUL FOR YOUR EFFORTS. OUR NEXT
HIGHEST

PRIORITY IS TO BEGIN THE NECESSARY PREPARATION TO RE-OPEN OUR
PORTS

AND WATERWAYS.

2. I RECOGNIZE THE TERRIBLE STRAIN OF THESE AROUND THE CLOCK
EFFORTS AND HAVE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION TO CALL UP THE
RESERVES. AS ALWAYS, THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY HAS BEEN IN THE
THICK OF SUPPORTING OUR OPERATIONS, AND I AM GRATEFUL. COAST
GUARD

PROFESSIONALISM IS MADE EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE WHEN WE CONSIDER
THAT

MANY ARE DEALING WITH PERSONAL UNCERTAINTIES RELATED TO THE
SAFETY

AND SECURITY OF THEIR FAMILIES AND HOMES. OUR THOUGHTS AND
PRAYERS

ARE WITH ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE STORM, BUT PARTICULARLY WITH
OUR

SHIPMATES. WE ARE MOVING TO TAKE CARE OF OUR PEOPLE EVEN AS WE
CONTINUE TO SERVE THE NATION AT LARGE. I HAVE MOBILIZED THE HUMAN
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE TO IDENTIFY THE BEST AND QUICKEST MEANS TO
PROVIDE RELIEF TO THOSE IN THE COAST GUARD LEFT HOMELESS OR FACING
EXTENSIVE DAMAGES.

3. WE ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH FEMA, OTHER DHS AGENCIES, DOD AND
STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES TO BRING THE FULL WEIGHT OF COAST GUARD
RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES TO BEAR IN THIS MASSIVE RESPONSE
OPERATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIRELESS SERVICE, BUT OUR WORK HAS
ONLY JUST BEGUN.

4. SEMPER PARATUS.

5. INTERNET RELEASE IS AUTHORIZED.

6. ADM THOMAS H. COLLINS, COMMANDANT, SENDS.

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